

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The message also announced that pursuant to Executive Order No. 13531, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the following Members to the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform:

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN).

The Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS).

The Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD).

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MAFFEI). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HANDLING WITH KID GLOVES THE ENEMIES OF THIS NATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, sometimes I just do not understand this place. We are fighting people who will cut off your head, who will blow up a building and kill 3,000 people with an airplane. They will do anything they can to destroy America. Yet, when we pass an intelligence bill, we want to do everything we can to treat them with kid gloves. It just doesn't make any sense to me. The bill we are going to be voting on tomorrow in the manager's amendment says this:

It would define "cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment" in intelligence interrogations, and it would provide a penalty of up to 15 years in prison for the use of this treatment during an interrogation.

They're talking about our CIA people who are interrogating a terrorist—an al Qaeda terrorist, a Taliban terrorist or somebody who is threatening the security of the United States. I want to read that again.

It would define "cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment" in intelligence interrogations, and it would provide a penalty of up to 15 years in prison for the use of this treatment during an interrogation.

Now, what intelligence agent in his right mind would go that extra mile to get information from a terrorist who had information about flying a plane into a building to kill a couple of thousand people? Because, if he used anything that didn't fit within this category, he could be jailed. He could be prosecuted and could go to jail for 15 years. That's insane.

Then it goes on to say that it would also provide a criminal penalty of up to 5 years in jail for medical professionals who enable such activities.

Look, I don't believe in torture, and I don't believe in mistreating human

beings, but when you're talking about the security of the United States of America, that's number one. That is number one. When we take our oath of office here, we swear to uphold and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. If these terrorists are enemies of the United States, we need to do whatever we can to make sure that we get information from them to protect this country. The people who are doing that job frontline are the FBI, the CIA, the DIA, and all of our intelligence agencies. To hamstring them makes no sense to me whatsoever.

My liberal colleagues on the other side want to pat them on the head and give them Jell-O for lunch and do all the other crazy things that you should do. They're living better down at Guantanamo than the people in our prisons here in the United States—Americans. Yet we want to make sure that we treat them with kid gloves.

Right now, we have three Navy SEALs who are going to be court-martialed because they captured an al Qaeda terrorist in Fallujah, in Iraq, a terrorist who dragged four American contractors through the streets, burned their bodies, tortured them, and hung them from a bridge. In addition to that, he cut the head off of Daniel Pearl, a newsman, and he put his head on a pike.

You know, that guy, I'm sure, deserves a little extra sweet treatment, but I don't think so. Because he said he was hit in the mouth, had a bloody lip and got hit in the stomach, the three Navy SEALs who captured him are being court-martialed.

It makes no sense. This place is going nuts. We ought to be doing everything we can to defend and protect this country, and that means doing whatever is necessary, with certain limits, to extract any information we can from a terrorist. For us to put language in there like we're going to give a 15-year penalty in prison for a CIA agent who goes a little beyond by using cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment—and, boy, I don't know how you'd define that—what CIA agent is going to want to take that risk?

I just don't understand it, Mr. Speaker. We are in a war against people who want to destroy us and our way of life. They are willing to do all kinds of things—fly planes into buildings, do everything else, cut off heads, torture people. Yet we want to make sure we treat them with kid gloves. It makes absolutely no sense, and I will not vote for that bill tomorrow or anything that looks like it.

HONORING THE HEROES OF THE HAITIAN DISASTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, the House unanimously

passed House Resolution 1066, recognizing the bravery and efforts of the United States Armed Forces, local first responders, and other members of Operation Unified Response for their swift and coordinated action in light of the devastation wrought upon the nation of Haiti after a horrific 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Port-au-Prince and surrounding cities on the 12th of January, 2010.

I have the unique honor of representing both Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base. Men and women from the base were critical to the Haitian relief effort, and soldiers were involved in rescue and recovery operations as well as in humanitarian relief—passing out food and water to victims of this terrible disaster.

I would like to thank all of the military and civilian personnel who responded so effectively and quickly to this disaster, serving honorably under less than ideal conditions.

The 2nd Battalion of the 82nd Airborne Division and the 18th Airborne Corps were among the first responders, with hundreds of people on the ground within days of the disaster and thousands within a week.

□ 2000

The 2nd of the 319th Airborne soon joined them. The entire United States Army Garrison Fort Bragg came together and deployed units from the 82nd Airborne and 18th Corps in their support for our neighbors to the south.

In times of disaster, restoring and supporting the most basic requirements of life becomes a challenge. The 43rd and the 440th Maintenance Operations Squadrons and the 43rd Logistics Readiness Squadron provided the support for the fundamental requirements desperately needed by the Haitians: water, meals, and basic shelter. Of course, even the most needed supplies are useless on a tarmac. The 3rd Aerial Port Squadron, the 43rd Missions Support Squadron, the 440th Air Wing, and the 2nd Airlift Squadron got the materials where they were needed. The 145th Air Wing of the North Carolina National Guard worked with Pope Air Force personnel to make these deliveries happen. Matching the supplies and the need is no small task. The 43rd Operations Support Squadron and the 43rd Communication Squadron brought it all together under the able direction of the 43rd OG Command Post and assistance of the 43rd Security Forces.

The devastation of the nation of Haiti was tremendous. The infrastructure we take most for granted was destroyed. Roads, airports, and water infrastructure were made useless in an instant. The 43rd Civil Engineering Squadron arrived to put out fires and stayed to rebuild these fundamental needs.

The military personnel were not the only ones from North Carolina who responded to the crisis. Civilians, first responders, individual volunteers, and generous donors all helped make a difference to the people of Haiti. Communities of faith across the State moved